

REMARKS:

Claims 11 and 12 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-10 and 13-17 are pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

The applicant notes that on the PTO form 1449 enclosed with the Office Action, the Examiner neglected to initial the Shibazaki et al. reference listed under "Other Documents". Correction is respectfully requested.

The abstract was objected to because it was more than 150 words. The applicant submits a new abstract, which is shorter than 150 words.

Claims 1-17 were rejected as being obvious over Suzuki (U.S. Patent No. 6,433,845) in view of Itoh (U.S. Patent No. 5,485,295) and Vagyu (U.S. Patent No. 6,133,894). The rejection of claim 11 and 12 is moot due to the cancellation of these claims. The rejections as applied to claims 1-10 and 13-17 are respectfully traversed.

The present invention relates to a reflection-type color liquid crystal display device. Independent claims 1 and 13, which are directed to a normally black display, require [1a] "polarized light at a reflecting plane of the reflection electrode is substantially circularly polarized light in any of wavelengths." Independent claim 6, which is directed to a normally white display, requires [1b] "polarized light at a reflecting plane of the reflection electrode is substantially linearly polarized light in any of wavelengths." In addition, claims 1, 6 and 13 require [2] "projections of Stokes parameter (S_1 , S_2 , S_3) of light between the phase plate and the liquid crystal layer on an S_1 - S_2 plane constitute a substantially linear line".

With respect to requirement [1a] and [1b] above, the Examiner failed to identify any such teaching in the cited references. The Examiner stated that Suzuki teaches that the phase plate converts linearly polarized light into circularly polarized light over a wide wavelength band (citing col. 7, lines 49-52 of Suzuki). This teaching, however, only pertains to the polarization of the light after the phase plate, and before the light enters the liquid crystal. The limitations [1a] and [1b] above, on the other hand, pertain to the polarization of light at the reflecting plane.

Thus, the applicant respectfully submits that the cited teaching of Suzuki is unrelated to the above claim limitation. Nor is the polarization of the light at the reflecting plane described anywhere else in that reference.

With respect to limitation [2] above (Stoke parameters), the Examiner acknowledged that Suzuki does not teach this feature, but cited Itoh for providing such teaching. The applicant submits, however, that Itoh does not relate to a reflection type LCD. Since the polarization consideration for a transmission type LCD (Itoh) is substantially different from that for a reflection type LCD (Suzuki), these two references cannot be combined because there would be no motivation to do so.

With respect to claims 5, 10, 12 and 17, the Examiner cited Vagyu for teaching a method of switching between three primary colors. Because Vagyu only describes a driving method and does not relate to reflective type LCD, it does not cure the defect of Suzuki and Itoh.

For the above reasons, claims 1, 6 and 13 and their dependent claims 2-5, 7-10 and 14-17 are patentable over the cited art.

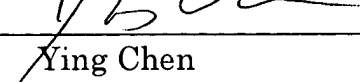
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6700 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: February 25, 2003

By: 
Ying Chen
Registration No. 50,193
Attorney for Applicant(s)

500 South Grand Avenue, Suite 1900
Los Angeles, California 90071
Phone: 213-337-6700
Fax: 213-337-6701